## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION OF	)	
Lowry	)	
	)	
SERIAL NO.: 10/711,687	)	Group Art Unit: 3727
	)	
FILED: Sep. 30, 2004	)	Examiner:
	)	
FOR: MODULAR PACKAGING SYSTEM FO	R )	
SHIPPING AND DISPLAYING	)	
PALLETIZED STACKABLE RETAIL	)	
PRODUCTS	)	
4.9		
Mail Stop Patent Application		·
Commissioner for Patents		
P.O. Box 1450		
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of references known to applicant and/or his attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.56. A legible copy of each foreign reference is enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R.1.98(a)(2).

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i), the following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each foreign patent:

Japanese Patent No. JP10167253 discloses a display system for packaged products, the system comprising stackable trays 2A and corner posts ("columns") 20 (Fig. 6) that fit within channels 12 integrally formed at the four corners of each tray. The trays can be stacked as shown in Figure 6. Toshiyuki does not disclose openings in the trays for accommodating the bottom of product containers, or corner posts that can be inserted through openings in the trays to lock multiple trays together.

Applicant seeks to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold J. Fassnacht

Reg. No. 35,507 Attorney for Applicant

CLAUSEN MILLER, P.C. 10 S. LaSalle Street - Suite 1600 Chicago, Illinois 60603 Telephone: 312-606-7674

Dated: December 15, 2004

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/711,687 Filing Date 9/30/2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor LOWRY STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3727 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** of 1 Attorney Docket Number Sheet 1 4295

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Cite No.1	Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (# known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		<u> </u>			
	Ì	US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
•		US-			
		US-			1
		US-			
		US-			
		US-	<del>                                     </del>	No. 10.	<del></del>
(		US-			
		US-	<del>                                     </del>		
		US-			<del></del>
		US-	<del>                                     </del>		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T°
		JP 10167253	06-23-1998	Toshiyuki	Figure 6	
	<u> </u>	-				
	ļ					
					<u> </u>	
	l					

	1.01.00.100		
Examiner		Date	
Signature			
Signature		Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.